



June, 2006

Issue Number 3

Wilkes County News

Wilkes County FSA
PO Box 470
Wilkesboro NC 28697
336-838-3622 (phone)
336-838-0797 (fax)

Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

County Committee:
Shelmer D. Blackburn, Jr.,
Chairperson
Don Somers, Vice Chair
Judy Speaks, Member
James Adams, Advisor

The Wilkes County Office Committee meets once a month. The Committee has established 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Tuesday of the month as its regular meeting time and the Wilkes County FSA office as its meeting place.

Staff:
Michelle Wagoner,
Acting CED
Melissa Hodges,
Farm Loan Manager
Amy Lowe, Program Tech.
Donna Triplette,
Program Tech.

Special Reminders:
Persons with disabilities who require special accommodations to visit the FSA Office should contact Michelle Wagoner, Acting CED, at 336-838-3622 ext. 2. If a crop receives damage due to weather or pestilence, the producer must report the damage to the FSA office within 15 calendar days of the date of damage. The web site for market rates is as follows:
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>. Then you can click Daily LDP Rate. Then click on Select a State. Scroll down and select NC and then submit. When asked to select a county scroll down to Wilkes and click on submit. This will give you the market rates for the day. There is a wide variety of information that can be obtained at this web site.



Make a Difference

From June 15 through Aug. 1, farmers and ranchers can nominate eligible peers as candidates for election to the Wilkes County Farm Service Agency county committee. This is an important time for the community because county committee members make decisions that have significant effects on you and the area's agricultural sector as a whole.

For example, committee members make decisions on applications for federal farm program and disaster payments. Committee members play a vital role by helping local farmers and ranchers weather tough financial times and natural disasters. Also, committee members are responsible for hiring the county executive director – a key player in the delivery of farm programs.

County committee members make many other important decisions that affect local farmers and ranchers, such as whether haying and grazing should be allowed on Conservation Reserve Program land. Talk to a county committee member or the Acting CED for details on the types of decisions county committee members make.

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet basic eligibility requirements. Contact our office staff or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections> for details about candidate eligibility. Nomination forms can be obtained at the county office or online at the above address. LAA 2 is up for nominating a candidate. This area consists of Moravian Falls, Beaver Creek, Boomer, Elk, Lewis Fork, Jobs Cabin, Staton, Union, Reddies River, Mulberry, Walnut Grove, and Rock Creek Townships. Remember, the nomination period runs June 15 through Aug. 1. Voting takes place in the fall. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by Nov. 3. Dec. 4 is the last day to return voted ballots to the county office. Newly elected committee members and alternates take office Jan. 1, 2007.

Make a Difference: Nominate and Vote!

Acreage Reporting

The timely filing of an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a number of programs, including Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program, Conservation Reserve Program, Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, as well as marketing assistance loans and loan deficiency payments.

To be timely, you must file an FSA-578 by June 30. To be considered timely, acreage reports for:

- prevented planted acreage must be filed no later than 15 calendar days after the final reporting date for the applicable crop
- failed acreage must be filed before the disposition of the crop.

We will accept crop certifications from farm operators, farm owners, persons authorized by power of attorney and tenants and sharecroppers, for which they have a share. We will also accept from all producers crop acreage reports for any purpose. Please call ahead of time so that we may have your maps and other paperwork ready when you arrive.



Our office will be closed Tuesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.

2008-2010 CRP Contracts

If you have a Conservation Reserve Program contract that expires in 2008, 2009 or 2010, you should have received a letter from the county office explaining your options to re-enroll or extend your contract. To take advantage of the offer, you must respond by the close of business on June 30, otherwise your contract will expire on its stated date. If you have any questions, don't wait. Contact the county office staff for detailed information today.

CCC-633 EZ Reminder

Remember, we've switched to the CCC-633 EZ form. It's a one size fits all form you can use to indicate your intention to receive loan deficiency payments for all your crops at the beginning of the crop year, long before you've lost beneficial interest. The same form is then used to submit a request for an LDP any time during the loan/LDP availability period before or after losing beneficial interest. For the 2006 crop year, the CCC-633 EZ and eLDP online requests are the only methods available to request LDPs.

The next time you're in the county office, please verify you've signed and submitted Page 1 of the CCC-633 EZ. You will need to submit CCC-633 EZ, page 2, 3 or 4 for each LDP payment in person, by fax, by mail or by filing electronically. Don't forget to submit payment requests before the final loan availability date. You can use eLDP Web site to request LDP if you have e-Authentication and page 1 has been received in the county office. Forms can be found at <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainervlet>. The FSA Web site for price support is <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/daftp/psd/default.htm>. Contact the county office staff for details.

LDP REGULATIONS REVISIONS

Loan Deficiency Payment regulations concerning beneficial interest requirements have been revised for the 2006 crop year. In order to request and LDP, the producer must be in control of and have title to the commodity when the CCC-633 EZ form is initially filed. Producers who deliver commodities to a facility where the commodity is commingled with commodities from other producers are ineligible for an MAL or LDP, if the facility is not authorized by State or Federal law to store such commodities for the benefit of producers. Producers who deliver commodities to a location that is not considered a CCC-approved or State or Federally licensed facility will lose beneficial interest in the commodity on the date of physical delivery. A person who purchases or otherwise acquires a commodity from a producer under any circumstances does not have beneficial interest in the commodity regardless if the purchase or acquisition is made before or after the harvest of the commodity. Commodity Credit Corporation will consider a person to have beneficial interest in the commodity if, before harvest, the person has obtained title to the growing commodity and has risk in producing the commodity at the same time title was obtained for the land on which the commodity was growing. Upon a producer's death, CCC will consider an estate, heirs of the deceased producer, or a person to whom title to a commodity has passed by State law, to have beneficial interest in a commodity produced by the deceased producer. The same terms and conditions apply to the assumed producer as did the deceased producer. Contact the county office if you have any questions on these revisions.

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